

## The genus *Aspistes* Meigen in North America (Diptera, Scatopsidae).

By J. R. MALLOCH.

In his paper on the dipterous family Scatopsidae\* Dr. A. L. Melander has recorded the European species *Aspistes berolinensis* Meigen as occurring in North America on the strength of a specimen taken by Dr. Aldrich at Lafayette, Indiana. I had some doubt about the correctness of the identification as I had a number of specimens of an *Aspistes* from Illinois, some of which had been in the collection of the Natural History Survey for a number of years, which though appearing to agree with the description of *berolinensis* yet did not do so in every essential, while evidently the same as that recorded by Melander. I deferred publishing anything on the species until I could obtain authentic specimens of the European species for comparison. These I have now obtained through my colleague Dr. C. P. Alexander who received them from Mr. M. P. Riedel. After an examination of the two series I am of the opinion that the North American species is undoubtedly distinct from the European and describe it below.

### *Aspistes harti* sp. n.

♂, ♀.—Glossy black. Legs black, tibiae and tarsi yellowish testaceous, apices of hind tibiae and tarsi usually infuscated. Wings clear. Halteres black.

Antennae in male 10-segmented, in female 8-segmented, the apical three segments fused; frons, face, and vertex less conspicuously punctate than in *berolinensis*; sides of head behind eyes not striate. The elevation on anterior half of mesonotum less closely punctured than in that species and without the central longitudinal raised line which is always present in *berolinensis*. Abdomen in male as in *berolinensis*, the eighth sternite less distinctly punctate, and more pointed at apex. In other respects as in *berolinensis*.

Length, 1.5-2.5 mm.

*Type*, male, and *allotype*, Havana, Illinois, data lost. *Paratypes*, Havana, Ill., data lost, one male and one female;

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\*Bull. 130, Div. Ent. Zool., State Coll. Wash., 1916, p. 5.